

August 9, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Medical marijuana use and driving could mean a DUI

"... A Michigan man was charged with driving a car with a prohibited substance in his system after he told an officer during a traffic stop that he was an authorized medical-marijuana cardholder and had smoked five hours earlier.... The Michigan Supreme Court reversed that Appeals Court decision earlier this year and found that the state's medical-marijuana law authorized participants to have traces of marijuana in their bloodstream so long as they were not impaired while driving."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Federal appeals court reopens battle over immediate effect

"Just when House Democrats appear to have exhausted their legal challenges to a GOP practice of giving bills immediate effect without a roll-call vote, a federal appeals court today reopened the issue.... Former House Minority Leader Richard Hammel earlier challenged the House practice of gaveling through immediate effect in state court. He won in Ingham County Circuit Court but lost in the Michigan Court of Appeals. The Michigan Supreme Court refused to hear the case."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: U.S. court: Michigan Legislature 'ignores' constitution in fast-tracking bills

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Judge: Bolger, Schmidt won't be indicted over alleged election rigging

"A year-long grand jury investigation in Ingham County has concluded House Speaker Jase Bolger and former state Rep. Roy Schmidt did not violate any laws when they attempted last year to rig Schmidt's re-election. Ingham County Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, who was appointed to run a grand jury investigation last year, issued an order Friday saying no individuals would be indicted in the matter."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: No charges in Roy Schmidt-Jase Bolger party-switch scandal, judge finds

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Judge finds no criminal wrongdoing by Jase Bolger, Roy Schmidt in lawmaker's party switch

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Jase Bolger, Roy Schmidt cleared in grand jury investigation of party-switch scheme

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Roy Schmidt, Jase Bolger fallout: Kent County Dems want new laws on party switching

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Grosse Pointe Shores councilman accused of domestic violence calls charges 'overboard'

"A Grosse Pointe Shores councilman has been charged with domestic violence.... [Daniel] Schulte's preliminary examination is scheduled for Aug. 21. The state court administrator will have to assign another judge to the case because the local judge has disqualified himself, the prosecutor's office said."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Grosse Pointe Shores councilman charged with domestic violence

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Tom Greenwood: Tough judge was motivated by mission of teen safety

"Teenage drivers lost a good friend on Aug. 1 with the passing of former 52nd District Court Judge Michael A. Martone at age 66. In 1993, Martone started his Courageous Decisions program, a unique learning experience in which he transferred a whole day's court proceedings — including defendants, victims and lawyers — to selected schools so students could see for themselves the consequences of drunken driving and drug abuse."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Snyder appoints Lillard, Hegarty to Third Circuit

"Gov. Rick Snyder appointed Charles Hegarty and Qiana Lillard to the state's 3rd Circuit Court in Wayne County Wednesday.... Hegarty fills a vacancy created by the removal of former Judge Deborah Ross Adams.... [Lillard] fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Wendy Baxter. Both appointees must seek election in November 2014 to serve the remainder of terms ending Jan. 1, 2019."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Judge Donald Halstead retires after 32 years on Kalamazoo County Probate Court bench

"Kalamazoo County Probate Judge Donald R. Halstead has retired after serving the county for 32 years. The official date of his retirement was Monday, July 15. Reached for comment Thursday, Halstead said he decided earlier this year to retire so he can spend more time with his family."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Caretti under investigation by Judicial Tenure Commission

"Macomb County Circuit Judge Richard Caretti is under investigation by the state judicial watchdog panel and was granted a taxpayer-funded law firm to represent him in the probe. The Macomb County Board of Commissioners on Thursday voted 11-0 to approve the hiring of Southfield-based Collins Einhorn to represent Caretti in the probe by the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission, which monitors and can discipline Michigan judges for misconduct."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune and the Oakland Press.

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Caretti under investigation by JTC, gets taxpayer-funded lawyer

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Appeals court upholds dismissal of probate administrator's lawsuit

"A federal appeals court upheld dismissal of a wrongful firing lawsuit filed by the former administrator of Macomb County Probate Court against two Macomb County judges and the county. The Sixth Circuit U.S.

Court of Appeals in Cincinnati ruled against the estate of Donald Housey in a lawsuit against former Macomb County Chief Judge Mark Switalski, Probate Judge Kathryn George and Macomb County, according to its ruling Tuesday."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Probate court administrator's suit against judges properly dismissed

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Michigan Supreme Court says children in custody battle will stay with foster family

"The Michigan Supreme Court has ordered a grandmother to return four children who are the center of a custody dispute to their foster family while it decides whether to take the case. The Michigan Court of Appeals awarded custody of the four children to their grandmother last June.... But the Muskegon County prosecutor and a court-appointed guardian argued the children were already in a stable environment with a foster family and shouldn't be moved."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WKAR News/East Lansing: Michigan Supreme Court Says Children In Custody Battle Will Stay With Foster Family

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Nominations open for Child Welfare Awards

"The Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) is seeking nominations for its annual Child Welfare Awards which honor judges, lawyers, foster care workers, and foster parents for exemplary service to children in Michigan's foster care system.... The deadline is Friday, Sept 6. Award recipients will be recognized at the FCRB annual training conference on Thursday, Nov. 7, in Bay City."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Pontiac judges recuse themselves from councilman's drunken driving case

"Pontiac City Councilman George Williams is looking for a judge. Judges at 50th District Court recused themselves from the councilman's drunken driving case on Thursday, citing the city's connection to the court. Williams, 56, is charged for the third time with operating under the influence of liquor, as well as driving without a license."

[Full story](#)